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rather than to safeguard the public. (3) The agents mainly responsible for the lack of proper discipline are the railroad labor organizations. Weaknesses of management, particularly the lack of out-of-door supervision, are not condoned; benefits of unions when acting in legitimate channels are fully recognized; but the net conclusion is "As matters stand today between labor organizations and railroad managers it is very doubtful if any practical system of supervision of discipline . . . can be adequately enforced" again, "The influence of the railroad labor organization has been consistently exerted . . . to nullify discipline, to destroy personal management and authority, and to obliterate from all schedules and working agreements any reference to a consideration for the paramount interests of the traveling public."

It is refreshing just now to have our attention drawn to the fact that railroad management is not responsible for all the shortcomings of the railway system. Mr. Fagan's work will not be palatable to a good many interests. Nevertheless it is written by a man who should know whereof he speaks and his propositions are backed by a wealth of concrete illustrations and examples. There can be no doubt that the case he presents is worthy of careful consideration. He works out no remedy in detail but states very emphatically that the problem must "be taken in hand and solved by the people." It is understood that his remedy is to be presented in later writings.

L. C. MARSHALL

Soziale Gesetzgebung und Statistik. By N. REICHESBERG. Bern: Scheitlin, Spring & Cie., 1908. 8vo, pp. vii+138.

This essay is the outgrowth of an address delivered by the author before the *Schweizerische Vereinigung zur Förderung des internationalen Arbeiterschutzes* in 1903, and of the subsequent attention which he gave to the subject in carrying out the commission of that society to prepare a statement of the arguments in favor of governmental provision for a Swiss federal system of social statistics. General introductory chapters discuss the function of social legislation and the statistics which social legislation requires. Social legislation signifies, as the author conceives it, the entrance of the legislative authority as a partisan into class conflicts with the purpose of working for the success of some definite social ideal involved. Especially this legislation should work for the abolition of class conflict, the increasing efficiency of production, the more widespread enjoyment of the benefits of this efficiency, and the removal of harmful conditions surrounding those who work. The rôle of social statistics is delineated in harmony with this view, after the history of governmental statistics has been so traced as to show how the gathering of facts aiding government purposes naturally has caused an illumination of social problems partial in correspondence with the partiality of the interests of the ruling classes. The remainder of the essay (about two-thirds of the whole, in extent) is devoted to a development of the project of federal social statistics with reference to the actual system of official statistics in Switzerland.